Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of creating a hyperlink from an electronic document to a physical document for locating, on the physical document, an item referenced in the electronic document, comprising the steps of:

defining a referenced item in an electronic document;

determining absolute coordinates of the referenced item;

defining a hyperlink to the physical document; and

encoding the absolute coordinates in the hyperlink.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of encoding further includes the step of encoding an address of a second electronic document in the hyperlink.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the address of the second electronic document is a Uniform Resource Locator address of a web server hosting the second electronic document.

4. The method of claim 1, further including the step of storing the absolute coordinates in a table.

5. The method of claim 1, further including the step of computing foil coordinates from the absolute coordinates of the referenced item.

6. The method of claim 5, further including the step of storing the foil coordinates in a table.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the referenced item is related to a geographic location;

the absolute coordinates include geographic coordinates; and

the physical document includes a map.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the electronic document is a hyper text markup language document; and

the hyperlink uses syntactic conventions of hyper text
5 markup language.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of encoding includes the steps of:

computing geographic coordinates associated with the referenced item; and

10 including the geographic coordinates in the hyperlink.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the geographic coordinates include longitude and latitude.

11.   An electronic document, comprising:

a referenced item;

within the referenced item, a hyperlink to a physical document; and

within the hyperlink, encoded absolute coordinates of the referenced item;

wherein the encoded absolute coordinates identify a location, on an opto-touch foil, associated with the reference item.

10   12.   The electronic document of claim 11, wherein the referenced item includes a geographic location and the absolute coordinates include geographic coordinates of the geographic location.

13. The electronic document of claim 11, wherein the electronic document is a hyper text markup language document, and the hyperlink uses syntactic convention of hyper text markup language.

5   14. The electronic document of claim 11, wherein the hyperlink includes an address of a second electronic document.

15. The electronic document of claim 14, wherein the second electronic document is a web page, and the address is a Universal Resource Locator address of a web server hosting the second 10   electronic document.

16. The electronic document of claim 11, wherein the absolute coordinates include geographic coordinates.

17. The electronic document of claim 16, wherein the geographic coordinates include latitude and longitude.

18.   A method of locating on a physical document an item
referenced in an electronic document, using an opto-touch foil,
comprising the steps of:

        identifying a referenced item in an electronic document;

5   identifying a physical document;

        determining absolute coordinates of the referenced item; and

        computing, from the absolute coordinates, foil coordinates
corresponding to a position on the physical document.

19.   The method of claim 18, further including the steps of:

10   storing the absolute coordinates in a table; and

        storing the foil coordinates in the table.

20.   The method of claim 18, further including the step of
sending the foil coordinates to an opto-touch foil that optically

highlights a position upon the opto-touch foil responsive to the foil coordinates.

21. The method of claim 18, further including the steps of:

   determining calibration foil coordinates of a point pressed
5 on the opto-touch foil, which point corresponds to the referenced item; and

   calibrating the opto-touch foil using the calibration foil coordinates.